

SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Intent and Purpose

The State Department of General Services, Telecommunications Division (DGS/TD) plans to replace the California Integrated Information Network (CALNET) CNT-001, suite of telecommunications services by December 2005. This project will be known as CALNET II to differentiate it from the current CALNET Master Services Agreement.

It is the intent of the State to build upon the strategy implemented in 1998 with the award of CALNET CNT-001, which was to replace the independent, heterogeneous, state-owned, telecommunications networks with integrated, flexible, and efficient statewide services. These services would be provided to the greatest extent feasible with a contractor-owned and contractor-operated infrastructure under the oversight of the DGS/TD.

The new telecommunications model must be designed to address the current and future business needs of State and local government agencies, provide for a smooth transition to a new contractor using current equipment and infrastructure technology, with continuous modernization of the infrastructure and rapid deployment of new technologies to meet the ever-increasing customer demands.

This document is a Request for Information (RFI) for interested parties, individual companies or strategic teams who may be interested in supplying all or a portion of telecommunications services to the State. It is intended at a minimum, to help clarify the State's intentions, and to obtain useful information through vendor feedback. The RFI will:

- Describe and clarify the intended vision and strategies of the State for current and future telecommunications needs.
- Communicate information regarding current State needs, seek industry input on technology and solutions, and the most cost effective and efficient means of providing telecommunications network services.
- Provide a means for interested parties to address and indicate to the State the teaming which may be required to successfully respond to the forthcoming RFP for statewide telecommunications network services.
- Provide the State a means of determining the scope of the forthcoming Request For Proposals (RFP) that will maximize competition to meet the service requirements at the least overall cost.
- Assist in determining the continued level of support to be required by the State in providing contract(s) for statewide telecommunications network service.

Ultimately, the State expects to issue a RFP to obtain statewide telecommunications services through public/private partnership(s).

1.2. Official Contacts

1.2.1. *Department Official*

The Department Official for CALNET II is:

Sandra L. Bierer
Chief, Office of Network Services
Telecommunications Division
Department of General Services
601 Sequoia Pacific Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95814

1.2.2. *Department Contact*

The Department Contact for administrative questions and RFI response is:

Brad Bailey
Project Manager,
Office of Network Services
Telecommunications Division
Department of General Services
601 Sequoia Pacific Blvd.
Sacramento CA 95814
e-mail: brad.bailey@dgs.ca.gov

1.2.3. *Alternate Department Contact*

In the absence of the above Department Contact, the alternate contact is:

Wes Nitta
Manager, Network and Resource Management Section
Office of Network Services
Telecommunications Division
Department of General Services
Sacramento CA 95814
e-mail: wes.nitta@dgs.ca.gov

1.3. Key Action Dates

Listed below are the important actions and dates. If the State deems it necessary to make changes to this schedule, it will do so by posting changes on the **CALNET II homepage** at www.dgs.ca.gov/td.

Action	Date
1. Release of RFI	March 8, 2004
2. Last day to submit questions	March 29, 2004
3. Submission of Responses Due	April 26, 2004
4. Tentative release of the RFP	December 2004
5. Estimated Bid Award	December 2005